

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 SAJ-01 ACDA-05

SAM-01 SAB-01 /107 W

----- 031707

R 261100Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3822

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0200

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, TC, XF

SUBJECT : UAE VIEWS ON SC MIDDLE EAST DEBATE

1. I HAD OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER SUWAIDI AND HIS DEPUTY SAIF GHUBBASH (LATTER IS IN FACT RUNNING MINISTRY THESE DAYS) ABOUT SC DEBATE ON MIDDLE EAST. SUWAIDI CONFESED HE HAD NOT BEEN FOLLOWING SC ACTION AND MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS. GHUBBASH HAD MORE TO SAY, ESPECIALLY ON PALESTINIAN ASPECT.

2. GHUBBASH SAID HE HAD JUST RECEIVED TEXT OF LATEST DRAFT RES (IDENTICAL TO THAT GIVEN USUN 256) AND WAS ASTONISHED AT HOW FAR POSITION OF PLO HAD COME IN DIRECTION OF MODERATION. HE  
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ASSUMED DRAFT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD IF IT WERE NOT

ACCEPTABLE TO ARAB CAUCUS AND THEREFORE PALESTINIANS AS WELL. GHUBBASH SAID DRAFT WAS TANTAMOUNT TO PLO RECOGNITION OF STATE OF ISRAEL AND WAS REMARKABLE STEP FORWARD. HE RECOGNIZED THAT US COULD NOT VOTE FOR RESOLUTION "SINCE YOU HAVE YOUR OWN POLITICAL PROBLEMS" BUT THOUGHT THAT US ABSTENTION WAS APPROPRIATE IN RECOGNITION OF DEGREE TO WHICH ARABS HAD BROUGHT PLO TOWARD MODERATE POSITION.

3. I TOLD GHUBBASH I COULD NOT PREDICT HOW US WOULD END UP VOTING, BUT WITHOUT DENYING HIS POINT ABOUT POSSIBLE EVOLUTION OF PALESTINIAN ATTITUDES, WHICH WE WELCOMED, DRAFT AS HE AND I HAD RECEIVED IT WAS UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE IT ATTEMPTED TO SUPERCEDE EXISTING SC RESES AND CREATE NEW FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS. I REMINDED HIM THAT REASON WHY SC RESES 242 AND 338 CONSTITUTED BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH IS ACCEPTED BY PARTIES, IS THAT THEY HAD BOTH BEEN PAINSTAKINGLY NEGOTIATED BEFOREHAND WITH PARTIES TO CONFLICT. WE COULD NOT ACCEPT ATTEMPT BY SC NOW TO CREATE NEW FRAMEWORK BY FIAT WITHOUT AGREEMENT OF ALL OF PARTIES.

3. GHUBBASH TOOK LINE THAT LONG PERIOD OF INACTIVITY AFTER SC RES 242 HAD BEEN PASSED HAD RENDERED "NEW, LESS AMBIGUOUS" RESOLUTION NECESSARY. DID WE WANT TO WAIT FOR ANOTHER WAR WHILE ISRAELIS CONTINUED TO FREEZE SITUATION ON BASIS OF AMBIGUITIES AND GAPS IN SC RES 242? HE CONTINUED TO HOPE THAT USG WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE ITS WAY TO ABSTENTION WHEN ISSUE CAME TO VOTE.  
STERNER

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## Message Attributes

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